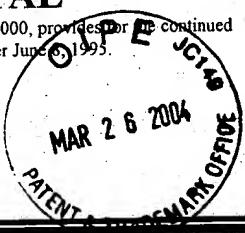


# 41

# REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE) TRANSMITTAL

Subsection (b) of 35 U.S.C. § 132, effective on May 29, 2000, provides for continued examination of a utility or plant application filed on or after June 1, 1995.



Application Number	08/921,250
Filing Date	August 29, 1997
First Named Inventor	INOUE et al.
Group Art Unit	1763
Name of Examiner	Goudreau, George A.
Attorney Docket No.	970813

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 of the above-identified application.

Note: 37 C.F.R. §1.114 is effective on May 29, 2000. If the above-identified application was filed prior to May 29, 2000, applicant may wish to consider filing a continued prosecution application (CPA) under 37 C.F.R. §1.53 (PTO/SB/29) instead of a RCE to be eligible for the patent term adjustment provisions of the AIPA. See changes to Application Examination and Provisional Application Practice, Interim Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 14865 (Mar 20, 2000) 1233 Off. Gazette Pat Office

**RECEIVED**

MAR 29 2004

**1. Submission Required Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114**

- a.  Previously submitted
  - i.  Consider the amendment(s)/reply under 37 C.F.R. §1.116 previously filed on **OFFICE OF PETITIONS**  
(Any unentered amendment(s) referred to above will be entered)
  - ii.  Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on \_\_\_\_\_
  - iii.  Other \_\_\_\_\_
- b.  Enclosed
  - i.  Preliminary Amendment
  - ii.  Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s)
  - iii.  Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)
  - iv.  Petition for Extension of Time

**2. Miscellaneous**

- a.  Suspension of Action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 C.F.R. §1.103(c) for a period of \_\_\_\_\_ months (period shall not exceed three months; Fee under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(i) required)
- b.  Other \_\_\_\_\_
- 3. **Fees** The RCE fee under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(e) is required by 37 C.F.R. §1.114 when the RCE is filed.
  - a.  The Director is hereby authorized to charge the following fees, or credit any overpayments, to Deposit Account No. 50-2866
    - i.  RCE fee required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17 (e)
    - ii.  Extension of Time Fee (37 C.F.R. §§ 1.136 and 1.17)
    - iii.  Other Any additional fees due in connection with this paper
  - b.  Check in the amount of \$900.00 is enclosed - \$770.00 Basic Filing F e and \$130.00 Petition Fee.

**REQUEST FOR  
CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE)  
TRANSMITTAL**

Subsection (b) of 35 U.S.C. § 132, effective on May 29, 2000, provides for the continued examination of a utility or plant application filed on or after June 8, 1995.

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**PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Atty Docket No.

970813

**SIGNATURE BY APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED**

Name **Stephen G. Adrian**

**Registration No.** 32,878 (atty/agent)

**Signature**

Date March 26, 2004

**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION**

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to Commissioner for Patents, BOX RCE, Washington, D.C. 20231, or facsimile transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on:

Name \_\_\_\_\_

**Signature**